

General Assembly

Raised Bill No. 1060

January Session, 2007

LCO No. 3723

03723____ED_

Referred to Committee on Education

Introduced by: (ED)

AN ACT CONCERNING SCHOOL EXPULSIONS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 10-233d of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July* 1, 2007):
- 4 (a) (1) Any local or regional board of education, at a meeting at 5 which three or more members of such board are present, or the 6 impartial hearing board established pursuant to subsection (b) of this 7 section, may expel, subject to the provisions of this subsection, any 8 pupil whose conduct on school grounds or at a school-sponsored 9 activity is violative of a publicized policy of such board or is seriously 10 disruptive of the educational process or endangers persons or property 11 or whose conduct off school grounds is violative of such policy and is 12 seriously disruptive of the educational process, provided a majority of 13 the board members sitting in the expulsion hearing vote to expel and 14 that at least three affirmative votes for expulsion are cast. In making a 15 determination as to whether conduct is seriously disruptive of the 16 educational process, the board of education or impartial hearing board 17 may consider, but such consideration shall not be limited to: (A)

Whether the incident occurred within close proximity of a school; (B) whether other students from the school were involved or whether there was any gang involvement; (C) whether the conduct involved violence, threats of violence or the unlawful use of a weapon, as defined in section 29-38, and whether any injuries occurred; and (D) whether the conduct involved the use of alcohol.

(2) Expulsion proceedings pursuant to this section, except as provided in subsection (i) of this section shall be required whenever there is reason to believe that any pupil (A) on school grounds or at a school sponsored activity, was in possession of a firearm, as defined in 18 USC 921, as amended from time to time, or deadly weapon, dangerous instrument or martial arts weapon, as defined in section 53a-3, (B) off school grounds, did possess such a firearm in violation of section 29-35 or did possess and use such a firearm, instrument or weapon in the commission of a crime under chapter 952, or (C) on or off school grounds, offered for sale or distribution a controlled substance, as defined in subdivision (9) of section 21a-240, whose manufacture, distribution, sale, prescription, dispensing, transporting or possessing with intent to sell or dispense, offering, or administering is subject to criminal penalties under sections 21a-277 and 21a-278. Such a pupil shall be expelled for one calendar year if the local or regional board of education or impartial hearing board finds that the pupil did so possess or so possess and use, as appropriate, such a firearm, instrument or weapon or did so offer for sale or distribution such a controlled substance, provided the board of education or the hearing board may modify the period of expulsion for a pupil on a case by case basis.

(3) Unless an emergency exists, no pupil shall be expelled without a formal hearing held pursuant to sections 4-176e to 4-180a, inclusive, and section 4-181a, provided whenever such pupil is a minor, the notice required by section 4-177 and section 4-180 shall also be given to the parents or guardian of the pupil. If an emergency exists, such hearing shall be held as soon after the expulsion as possible. The notice

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

36

37

38

39

40

41

42

43

44

45

46

47

48

49

50

- 51 shall include information concerning legal services provided free of
- 52 <u>charge or at a reduced rate that are available locally and how to access</u>
- 53 such services.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	July 1, 2007	10-233d(a)

Statement of Purpose:

To include information in notices of expulsion regarding the availability of free or reduced rate legal services.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]